

**JOINT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE REDUCTION OF
PEDIATRIC DEATHS FROM INJURY AND ILLNESS**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jani Iwamoto

House Sponsor: Raymond P. Ward

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This joint resolution highlights the impact of pediatric deaths and injuries on the state of Utah and encourages the Department of Health to establish a pediatric quality improvement program and a Pediatric Trauma Quality Assurance Network.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ highlights the impact of pediatric deaths and injuries on the state of Utah;
- ▶ emphasizes the importance of reducing pediatric deaths and injuries; and
- ▶ encourages the Department of Health to establish a pediatric quality improvement

program and a multi-stakeholder Pediatric Trauma Quality Assurance Network to advise the department on triage, transport, transfer, and treatment of ill and injured pediatric patients.

Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

WHEREAS, children make up 32% of the population in Utah;

WHEREAS, injury is the leading cause of death in the pediatric population;

WHEREAS, from 2001 through 2014, 1,003,054 pediatric patients were hospitalized in Utah;

WHEREAS, from 2001 through 2014, 27,968 pediatric patients were hospitalized for

30 injury in Utah;

31 WHEREAS, from 2001 through 2014, 3,189 children died from either illness or injury;

32 WHEREAS, from 2001 through 2014, 580 children died as a result of injury;

33 WHEREAS, from 2003 through 2013, 27% of pediatric patients were over-triaged to a

34 Level I pediatric trauma center;

35 WHEREAS, the over-triage of pediatric trauma patients resulted in unnecessary

36 transport charges in excess of \$8,900,000;

37 WHEREAS, Utah Code Section [26-8a-250](#) directs the Department of Health to

38 establish a statewide trauma system;

39 WHEREAS, Utah Code Section [26-8a-205](#) directs the Department of Health to

40 establish a pediatric quality improvement resource program; and

41 WHEREAS, the Department of Health has not yet established a pediatric quality

42 improvement resource program in accordance with Utah Code Section [26-8a-205](#):

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah

44 urges the Department of Health to establish a pediatric quality improvement program in

45 accordance with Section [26-8a-205](#).

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages the Department of

47 Health to convene, as part of the pediatric quality improvement program, a multi-stakeholder

48 Pediatric Trauma Quality Assurance Network to recommend methodology, standards, and

49 guidelines to reduce morbidity, mortality, and the cost of injury and illness to pediatric patients

50 in Utah.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages the Department of

52 Health to continue working to find effective and innovative ways to reduce the impact of

53 pediatric injury in the state.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Department

55 of Health.